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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting With AECASSOWARY/2 and 15

File
June 1960
26 May 1960

1. In view of AECASSOWARY/15's plans to visit Toronto over the Memorial Day weekend and to spend several days assessing the REDSKIN potential in the Ukrainian community there, AECASSOWARY/2 came to Washington to give him some leads. Since AECASSOWARY/15 is in full time training, he did not become involved with AECASSOWARY/2 until the evening of 25 May. In the meantime AECASSOWARY/2 met with the undersigned and [] on other AECASSOWARY/1 affairs.
2. AECASSOWARY/2 produced additional biographic information elicited from Vadim ANDRIJENSKYJ, whom we are considering as a contact operations agent at the Rome Olympics. ANDRIJENSKYJ lives at 2660 Kingsbridge Terrace, New York 63. His telephone number is DU 4-9848. He was born on 8 January 1917 in the village of Petruha Hora near Vilnius. His mother was of German origin--his father a Ukrainian, was an engineer. In 1931, while the family was living in Kiev, ANDRIJENSKYJ's father was purged. He lost his job, and the family was sent to Moscow, where it subsequently remained. ANDRIJENSKYJ was a swimming champion in the USSR prior to World War II. He was graduated as a civil engineer in Moscow. In 1941, while working with a university surveying group near Brest, he became permanently separated from his family by the invading German Army. In 1942 ANDRIJENSKYJ met his wife in Kiev and in 1943 they moved to Lvov. AECASSOWARY/2 did not learn under what circumstances he got to Germany or how he managed to get from there to Australia in 1948, but he did not become an Australian citizen.
3. In about 1958 ANDRIJENSKYJ and his family immigrated to the United States. His wife, nee Studzinska, is a doctor and is currently holding a job as laboratory technician. She has a sister living in New York named Tatiana Simchyshyn who is married to Orest Simchyshyn, an engineer. The latter was born in Peremyshl and has been a friend of AECASSOWARY/2 since 1933. ANDRIJENSKYJ's wife's father was a famous surgeon in Kiev and he and his wife are now living near Vynky (sic). Tatiana Simchyshyn corresponds with her parents and, since ANDRIJENSKYJ admitted to AECASSOWARY/2 that he is in indirect contact with his own family, AECASSOWARY/2 surmises that ANDRIJENSKYJ corresponds with his own family through the Simchyshyn family in Vynky. ANDRIJENSKYJ also has a divorced sister living with his parents in Moscow.
4. The ANDRIJENSKYJS have a son Olesh, born about 1940 and now an engineering student at New York University. The ANDRIJENSKYJS have Australian non-citizen passports which are still valid. They plan to take out American citizenship when they have completed five years residence.
5. ANDRIJENSKYJ told AECASSOWARY/2 that he had never been a member of the Komsomol. He also mentioned that he thought General Vlashevsky, now Chairman of the Committee for Return to the Homeland was at one time a frequent visitor in his family's home in Moscow. He remembers Vlashevsky as a former Tsarist army officer.

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6. When the Soviets came to Australia in 1956 for the Olympics, they brought along their own medical staff. There were two Ukrainian nurses who were acquaintances of ANDRIJENSKIY. However, time did not allow ANDRIJENSKIY the opportunity to talk to the nurses. ACRASSOWARY/2 speculates that there may be a similar opportunity to talk to the nurses. ACRASSOWARY/2 speculates that there may be a similar opportunity in Rome in 1960.

7. ANDRIJENSKIY speaks native Ukrainian and Russian and good to fluent German, as well as English.

8. ACRASSOWARY/2 counselled against our making a direct approach with an operational proposition to ANDRIJENSKIY through or in conjunction with himself. There seems to be some question in ACRASSOWARY/2's mind concerning ANDRIJENSKIY's willingness to participate in a pure intelligence operation due to the fact that his parents and sister are still living in the USSR. However he probably would be perfectly willing to meet with Soviet athletes as he did in Philadelphia and Melbourne on ACRASSOWARY/1's behalf. ACRASSOWARY/2 recommended that ANDRIJENSKIY be approached first by an Olympics official with a job offer and then later to recruit him for operational tasks. The undersigned stated that we would not be involved in promoting a cover spot for ANDRIJENSKIY unless we were sure he would perform operationally. We therefore decided that KUBARK should approach ANDRIJENSKIY unilaterally, allowing full assessment and testing prior to disclosing the operational task. This way we guard against exposing our objective until the very last minute and at the same time we can obtain a yes or no answer before arranging the cover. (We are not yet sure that a cover spot will be available, although a prior tentative commitment will be sought for.) Then, if at some point we find ANDRIJENSKIY unusable or if he turns down the final pitch (we do not think he will), we can consider using him with the ACRASSOWARY/1 team as originally planned.

9. We asked ACRASSOWARY/2 if he was aware that ACRASSOWARY/30 was being considered for a job with Radio Liberty. ACRASSOWARY/2 said that ACRASSOWARY/3 had written him to this effect but that ACRASSOWARY/30 has not mentioned it to ACRASSOWARY/2. ACRASSOWARY/2 said that the loss of ACRASSOWARY/30's services at this time would be serious as there is no replacement for him as editor of Latvianian Bastein. ACRASSOWARY/2 said that he was not surprised that ACRASSOWARY/30 was looking for work elsewhere because his present salary is not sufficient for supporting his new wife. He therefore went into the subject of salaries of the editorial staff in Munich and asked ACRASSOWARY/2 why the people were not better paid. ACRASSOWARY/2 said that some adjustment would have to be made but that there were certain problems of editorial policy and control to be settled at the same time. ACRASSOWARY/2 admitted that he did not see the people in Munich frequently enough and that he was thereby losing control of the situation. ACRASSOWARY/2 pointed out the necessity for re-establishing personal control this summer. He made specific mention of difficulties with Volodymyr Steadiv, editor of Budimna Ukraine, who takes his orders locally from ACRASSOWARY/3. ACRASSOWARY/2 and ACRASSOWARY/3 are in complete agreement, but Steadiv is out of step with both. ACRASSOWARY/2 would also like to discuss some changes in the Information Bulletin with ACRASSOWARY/3.

10. AECASSOWARY/2 planned to see Alexander Gerega in Detroit on 28 and 29 May. (See contact report dated 29 March 1960.) AECASSOWARY/2 expects to receive from Gerega additional details on Gerega's correspondence with his parents in the Ukraine.

11. AECASSOWARY/2 received no word from Mykhilo Olynk. Olynk's brother in Canada has had no word.

12. AECASSOWARY/2 reported that two women recently came to the United States for permanent residence from the Ukraine via Moscow, one from Berezhany, the other from Lvov. AECASSOWARY/2 thought he would have an opportunity to talk to the two women, at least to find out how much they know. He was given some general requirements on Lvov in case he was successful.

13. On the evening of 25 May AECASSOWARY/2 and the undersigned met AECASSOWARY/15 at the latter's home, so that AECASSOWARY/2 could advise AECASSOWARY/15 on his Toronto trip. Memorial Day weekend was not a particularly fortuitous time for the trip to Toronto, since there was a big Ukrainian meeting planned in Detroit at this time. AECASSOWARY/2 mentioned of all his contacts in Toronto Ivan Iliashewskiy was probably the best man for the job of operational spotter. It was decided that in addition to talking to Iliashewskiy AECASSOWARY/15 would use this opportunity for "nosing around" within the Ukrainian emigration in Toronto to find out what was going on. He was asked by the undersigned to write a complete report on his trip upon return.

14. AECASSOWARY/2 delved into the whole question of the operational setup in Canada, coming up with what seemed to AECASSOWARY/15 and the undersigned to be a premature attempt at rigidifying the operation. AECASSOWARY/15 developed the idea that he should make a number of contacts and only after a period of time and testing then decide whether or not he should appoint one man as his clandestine representative in Toronto. AECASSOWARY/2 acknowledged that this was probably the wisest course.

15. There was also some conversation on financing domestic operations. It was AECASSOWARY/2's opinion that if we were to use a spotter frequently and for long periods it would be necessary to pay him something for his time and trouble. It was decided that if fees are necessary there are various ways through which the expenses could be covered. For instance, AECASSOWARY/2 occasionally sends a check to one of his representatives in Canada to pay for such services as mailing of large quantities of the Information Bulletin. Fee might be covered through such a mechanism or perhaps better on a cash basis.

16. AECASSOWARY/2 was asked to prepare an itinerary for his proposed trip to Europe this summer, including the names of people he wishes to contact and the reasons for the contact.

17. The whole question of AECASSOWARY/1 operational development remains an illusive matter. AECASSOWARY/2 has been lax in furnishing the information which we have asked for on his collaborators, and we were distinctly disappointed by what he had to offer to AECASSOWARY/15 on the occasion of the latter's trip to Toronto. AECASSOWARY/15 seems almost embarrassed at times by AECASSOWARY/2's off hand manner on details. (AECASSOWARY/2 is always willing to speak in generalities.) We still expect to obtain the desired data through AECASSOWARY/15 and AECASSOWARY/29. They will have to draw on AECASSOWARY/2's background and personality information to develop their teams.

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18. The case of Maria Zalenski and her need for a letter stating that Yuri Zalenski is dead was discussed again with AECASSOWARY/2 with results already known to Chief, SR/3.

19. It was explained to AECASSOWARY/2 that Stephen OLYNYK's clearance is holding up his case.

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